

Applicant : William L. Scolnik
Serial No. : 10/665,050
Response to Office Action of May 18, 2004

Date: 6/3/04
Art Unit: 3751

Amendments to Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An improvement in a writing implement for the execution of writing movements by manual manipulation when oriented for such writing movements in a hand of an individual, the improvement enabling selective balancing of the writing implement in the hand of the individual executing the writing movements, the improvement comprising:

an elongate barrel extending longitudinally between opposite first and second ends;

a grip associated with the barrel for being gripped by the hand of the individual during execution of the writing movements;

a writing point adjacent the first end of the barrel;

a center of gravity located between the first and second ends of the barrel; and

a weight associated with the barrel for selective movement in longitudinal directions relative to the writing point among at least several locations available when the writing implement is oriented for writing movements; and

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a mechanism for placing the weight at a selected one of the several locations available when the writing implement is oriented for writing movements to place the center of gravity at a selected position relative to the grip[[,]] ~~the selected position~~ establishing and thereby establish a balance suited to the hand of the individual manipulating the writing implement during writing movements.

Claim 2 (original): The improvement of claim 1 wherein the barrel includes a bore extending longitudinally along the barrel, and the weight is located in the bore for movement in longitudinal directions along the bore.

Claim 3 (currently amended): An improvement in a writing implement for the execution of writing movements by manual manipulation in a hand of an individual, the improvement enabling selective balancing of the writing implement in the hand of the individual executing the writing movements, the improvement comprising:

an elongate barrel extending longitudinally between opposite first and second ends;

a bore extending longitudinally along the barrel;

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a grip associated with the barrel for being gripped by the hand of the individual during execution of the writing movements;
a writing point adjacent the first end of the barrel;
a center of gravity located between the first and second ends of the barrel; and

a weight located in the bore of the barrel for selective movement in longitudinal directions along the bore relative to the writing point to place the center of gravity at a selected position relative to the grip, the selected position establishing a balance suited to the hand of the individual manipulating the writing implement during writing movements; and

~~The improvement of claim 2~~ wherein the bore extends along a longitudinal axis, a lead screw extends within the bore, essentially parallel to the longitudinal axis, the lead screw being journaled for selective rotation within the bore, the weight is coupled to the lead screw for movement in longitudinal directions in response to rotation of the lead screw, and an actuator is coupled to the lead screw for selective actuation to rotate the lead screw.

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Claim 4 (original): The improvement of claim 3 wherein the actuator comprises a knob coupled to the lead screw for rotation of the lead screw in response to rotation of the knob.

Claim 5 (original): The improvement of claim 2 wherein the barrel includes at least a transparent portion, and the weight is juxtaposed with the transparent portion for enabling a visual observation of the position of the weight within the barrel.

Claim 6 (original): The improvement of claim 5 wherein the weight includes a display visible through the transparent portion of the barrel.

Claim 7 (original): The improvement of claim 1 wherein the grip is juxtaposed with the writing point.

Claim 8 (original): The improvement of claim 7 wherein the grip is located on a writing tip, a coupling couples the writing tip with the first end of the barrel for selective attachment and detachment of the writing tip and the barrel, thereby enabling the attachment of a writing tip selected from a plurality of writing tips, each of which writing tips includes a grip having a

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configuration different from a grip of another of the writing tips, whereby a writing tip having a grip of a selected configuration is selectively coupled to the barrel.

Claim 9 (original): The improvement of claim 1 including a cover member selectively placed over the writing point and selectively removed from over the writing point, the cover member including at least a portion of magnetically-attracted material, and a magnet located adjacent the second end of the barrel for retaining the cover member adjacent the second end of the barrel when the cover member is removed from the writing point.

Claim 10 (original): The improvement of claim 9 wherein the barrel includes a well located adjacent the second end of the barrel, the well being configured for reception of the cover member within the well when the cover member is retained adjacent the second end of the barrel.

Claim 11 (original): The improvement of claim 1 including a clip member located on the barrel for enabling attachment of the barrel to a support structure to be engaged by the clip member, the support structure having given structural characteristics, and a

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biasing arrangement for biasing the clip member with a biasing force establishing a gripping force between the clip member and the support structure, the biasing arrangement having a selectively adjustable mechanism for selectively adjusting the biasing force to enable the selection of a gripping force which accommodates the given structural characteristics of a particular support member.

Claim 12 (original): The improvement of claim 11 wherein the biasing arrangement includes a spring for exerting the biasing force, and the adjustable mechanism is coupled with the spring for selectively changing the biasing force exerted by the spring.

Claim 13 (original): The improvement of claim 1 wherein the writing implement is a pen and the writing point comprises a pen point.

Claims 14 and 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method for improving writing with a writing implement having a center of gravity and a grip to be held in a hand of an individual for manual manipulation of the

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writing implement through writing movements while oriented for such writing movements, the method comprising:

providing the writing implement with a weight selectively movable relative to the grip among at least several locations available when the writing implement is oriented for writing movements; and

moving the weight relative to the grip to place the weight at a selected one of the several locations available when the writing implement is oriented for writing movements to move the center of gravity of the writing implement to a selected position relative to the grip to and establish a balance suited to the hand of the individual manipulating the writing implement during writing movements.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 16 wherein the writing implement extends in a longitudinal direction, and the weight is moved in longitudinal directions to establish the balance.